

EPA: Site cleanup won't come soon

By ANGIE MUHS
Herald Staff Writer

A study to find a way to clean up a contaminated site at the Sunshine State Industrial Park could take at least a year, an Environmental Protection Agency official said at a public hearing Monday.

The EPA held an open house to let nearby residents say what they think should be done with the former Anodyne Inc. site at 1270 NW 165th St., which was placed on the National Priorities List in February. Inclusion on the National Priorities List means that the site is eligible for the EPA Superfund program.

But one man who lives near the site said that most residents did not even know the area was considered contaminated. Billy Isley also said EPA officials should have held the open house somewhere other than the McDonald Senior Center, 17051 NE 19th Ave.

"To hold the site meeting over here in North Miami Beach is crazy," said Isley, who lives in the 1700 block of Northwest 193rd Street. "It's nice that they're having this, but a lot of people don't have the information."

Nine people attended the open house. Two were reporters, and at least three were members of local environmental groups.

Isley, who has lived in the neighborhood eight years, said he heard of the meeting when a neighbor told him. He said he is especially concerned because his daughter, Kasha, 7, attends Scott Lake Elementary School, 1160 NW 175th St., about 10 blocks from the site.

Brad Jackson, the EPA's remedial project manager for the 1.6-acre site, said that Anodyne Inc. operated a lithography and silk-screening plant during the 1960s and 1970s. The EPA discovered in 1985 that liquid wastes had been dumped directly on the ground and improperly pumped into a 90-foot injection well.

Prudential Properties Co. signed an order of consent in March, agreeing to perform a remedial study to

WRITE TO EPA

Residents who want to express their opinions on the Anodyne Inc. site, at 1270 NW 165th St., to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency can contact Rose Jackson, community relations coordinator, or Brad Jackson, remedial project manager, at EPA, 345 Courtland St. NE; Atlanta, GA 30365. Or call (404) 347-2643.

examine ways to clean up the site, Jackson said. In about 18 months, the EPA hopes to issue a record of decision, which outlines what steps will be taken to clean up the contamination.

Tom Gago, a spokesman for Prudential, said the company administers a trust called 745 Property Investments, which is the technical owner of the site. He did not know when 745 Property Investments acquired the site, or when Anodyne^N went out of business.

Jackson said EPA investigators found aluminum, barium, cobalt, copper, cyanide, iron, lead, manganese, mercury, nickel and vanadium at the Anodyne site. EPA tests also found polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), acetone, toluene and other chemicals at the site, he said.

The site is directly over the Biscayne Aquifer, the sole source of drinking water for Dade County. In addition, two municipal wellfields that serve 148,200 people are located within three miles.

Betty Winter, the EPA's community relations coordinator, said that residential areas are north and west of the site. So far, she said, the contaminated groundwater seems to be seeping in the opposite direction, toward the Palmetto Expressway and Interstate 95.

The Anodyne site is the 12th Superfund site in Dade County, Jackson said.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1990. THE MIAMI HERALD. 3



11019988